

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2009

LCO No. 8180

HB0609708180HD0

Offered by:

REP. BERGER, 73rd Dist.

REP. MAZUREK, 80th Dist.

REP. SHARKEY, 88th Dist.

REP. FRITZ, 90th Dist.

REP. MIOLI, 136th Dist.

REP. DREW, 132nd Dist.

REP. O'CONNOR, 35th Dist.

REP. ALDARONDO, 75th Dist.

REP. BUTLER, 72nd Dist.

REP. D'AMELIO, 71st Dist.

REP. NOUJAIM, 74th Dist.

REP. ARESIMOWICZ, 30th Dist.

REP. ALBERTS, 50th Dist.

SEN. LEBEAU, 3rd Dist.

SEN. CALIGIURI, 16th Dist.

SEN. HARTLEY, 15th Dist.

REP. MORRIS, 140th Dist.

REP. JOHNSON, 49th Dist.

REP. ZALASKI, 81st Dist.

REP. HURLBURT, 53rd Dist.

REP. LEONE, 148th Dist.

REP. WILLIAMS, 68th Dist.

REP. PERILLO, 113th Dist.

SEN. FRANTZ, 36th Dist.

REP. ROY, 119th Dist.

SEN. MEYER, 12th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6097 File No. 956 Cal. No. 238

"AN ACT CONCERNING BROWNFIELDS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS."

- 1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
- 2 following in lieu thereof:
- 3 "Section 1. Section 25-68d of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 5 (a) No state agency shall undertake an activity or a critical activity

6 within or affecting the floodplain without first obtaining an approval 7 or approval with conditions from the commissioner of a certification 8 submitted in accordance with subsection (b) of this section or 9 exemption by the commissioner from such approval or approval with 10 conditions in accordance with subsection (d) of this section.

- (b) Any state agency proposing an activity or critical activity within or affecting the floodplain shall submit to the commissioner information certifying that:
- (1) The proposal will not obstruct flood flows or result in an adverse increase in flood elevations, significantly affect the storage or flood control value of the floodplains, cause an adverse increase in flood velocities, or an adverse flooding impact upon upstream, downstream or abutting properties, or pose a hazard to human life, health or property in the event of a base flood or base flood for a critical activity;
- (2) The proposal complies with the provisions of the National Flood Insurance Program (44 CFR 59 et seq.), and any floodplain zoning requirements adopted by a municipality in the area of the proposal and the requirements for stream channel encroachment lines adopted pursuant to the provisions of section 22a-342;
- (3) The agency has acquired, through public or private purchase or conveyance, easements and property in floodplains when the base flood or base flood for a critical activity is elevated above the increment authorized by the National Flood Insurance Program or the flood storage loss would cause adverse increases in such base flood flows;
- (4) The proposal promotes long-term nonintensive floodplain uses and has utilities located to discourage floodplain development;
- (5) The agency has considered and will use to the extent feasible flood-proofing techniques to protect new and existing structures and utility lines, will construct dikes, dams, channel alterations, seawalls, breakwaters or other structures only where there are no practical

alternatives and will implement stormwater management practices in accordance with regulations adopted pursuant to section 25-68h; and

- (6) The agency has flood forecasting and warning capabilities consistent with the system maintained by the National Weather Service and has a flood preparedness plan.
- (c) The commissioner shall make a decision either approving, approving with conditions or rejecting a certification not later than ninety days after receipt of such certification, except that in the case of an exemption any decision shall be made ninety days after the close of the hearing. If a certification is rejected, the agency shall be entitled to a hearing in accordance with the provisions of sections 4-176e, 4-177, 4-177c and 4-180.
- (d) Any state agency proposing an activity or critical activity within or affecting the floodplain may apply to the commissioner for exemption from the provisions of subsection (b) of this section. Such application shall include a statement of the reasons why such agency is unable to comply with said subsection and any other information the commissioner deems necessary. The commissioner, at least thirty days before approving, approving with conditions or denying any such application, shall publish once in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in the affected area notice of: (1) The name of the applicant; (2) the location and nature of the requested exemption; (3) the tentative decision on the application; and (4) additional information the commissioner deems necessary to support the decision to approve, approve with conditions or deny the application. There shall be a comment period following the public notice during which period interested persons and municipalities may submit written comments. After the comment period, the commissioner shall make a final determination to either approve the application, approve the application with conditions or deny the application. The commissioner may hold a public hearing prior to approving, approving with conditions or denying any application if in the discretion of the commissioner the public interest will be best served thereby, and the

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commissioner shall hold a public hearing upon receipt of a petition signed by at least twenty-five persons. Notice of such hearing shall be published at least thirty days before the hearing in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in the area affected. The commissioner may approve or approve with conditions such exemption if the commissioner determines that (A) the agency has shown that the activity or critical activity is in the public interest, will not injure persons or damage property in the area of such activity or critical activity, complies with the provisions of the National Flood Insurance Program, and, in the case of a loan or grant, the recipient of the loan or grant has been informed that increased flood insurance premiums may result from the activity or critical activity. An activity shall be considered to be in the public interest if it is a development subject to environmental remediation regulations adopted pursuant to section 22a-133k and is in or adjacent to an area identified as a regional center, neighborhood conservation area, growth area or rural community center in the State Plan of Conservation and Development pursuant to chapter 297, or (B) in the case of a flood control project, such project meets the criteria of subparagraph (A) of this subdivision and is more cost-effective to the state and municipalities than a project constructed to or above the base flood or base flood for a critical activity. Following approval for exemption for a flood control project, the commissioner shall provide notice of the hazards of a flood greater than the capacity of the project design to each member of the legislature whose district will be affected by the project and to the following agencies and officials in the area to be protected by the project: The planning and zoning commission, the inland wetlands agency, the director of civil defense, the conservation commission, the fire department, the police department, the chief elected official and each member of the legislative body, and the regional planning agency. Notice shall be given to the general public by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in each municipality in the area in which the project is to be located.

(e) The use of a mill that is located on a brownfield, as defined in

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section 32-9kk, shall be exempt from the certification requirements of

- subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of this section, provided the agency
- 106 <u>demonstrates:</u> (1) The activity is subject to the environmental
- 107 <u>remediation requirements of the regulations adopted pursuant to</u>
- section 22a-133k, (2) the activity is limited to the areas of the property
- where historical mill uses occurred, (3) any critical activity is above the
- 110 five hundred year flood elevation, and (4) the activity complies with
- the provisions of the National Flood Insurance Program.
- [(e)] (f) The failure of any agency to comply with the provisions of
- this section or any regulations adopted pursuant to section 25-68c shall
- be grounds for revocation of the approval of the certification.
- 115 [(f)] (g) The provisions of this section shall not apply to any
- proposal by the Department of Transportation for a project within a
- drainage basin of less than one square mile.
- 118 Sec. 2. Subdivision (1) of section 22a-134 of the general statutes is
- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from
- 120 passage):
- 121 (1) "Transfer of establishment" means any transaction or proceeding
- through which an establishment undergoes a change in ownership, but
- does not mean:
- (A) Conveyance or extinguishment of an easement;
- 125 (B) Conveyance of an establishment through a foreclosure, as
- defined in subsection (b) of section 22a-452f, [or] foreclosure of a
- municipal tax lien or through a tax warrant sale pursuant to section 12-
- 128 157, [or, provided the establishment is within the pilot program
- established in subsection (c) of section 32-9cc,] an exercise of eminent
- domain pursuant to section 8-128 or 8-193 or by condemnation
- pursuant to section 32-224 or purchase pursuant to a resolution by the
- legislative body of a municipality authorizing the acquisition through
- eminent domain for establishments that also meet the definition of a
- brownfield as defined in section 32-9kk or a subsequent transfer by

135 such municipality that has foreclosed on the property, foreclosed 136 municipal tax liens or that has acquired title to the property through section 12-157, or has been within the pilot program established in 137 138 subsection (c) of section 32-9cc, or has acquired such property through 139 the exercise of eminent domain pursuant to section 8-128 or 8-193 or by 140 condemnation pursuant to section 32-224 or a resolution, provided (i) 141 the party acquiring the property from the municipality did not 142 establish, create or contribute to the contamination at the establishment and is not affiliated with any person who established, created or 143 144 contributed to such contamination or with any person who is or was an owner or certifying party for the establishment, and (ii) on or before 145 146 the date the party acquires the property from the municipality, such 147 party or municipality enters and subsequently remains in the voluntary remediation program administered by the commissioner 148 149 pursuant to section 22a-133x, as amended by this act, and remains in 150 compliance with schedules and approvals issued by the commissioner. For purposes of this subparagraph, municipality includes any 151 municipality, municipal economic development agency or entity 152 153 created or operating under chapter 130 or 132, a nonprofit economic 154 development corporation formed to promote the common good, general welfare and economic development of a municipality that is 155 156 funded, either directly or through in-kind services, in part by a 157 municipality, or a nonstock corporation or limited liability company 158 controlled or established by a municipality, municipal economic 159 development agency or entity created or operating under chapter 130 160 or 132;

- 161 (C) Conveyance of a deed in lieu of foreclosure to a lender, as 162 defined in and that qualifies for the secured lender exemption 163 pursuant to subsection (b) of section 22a-452f;
- 164 (D) Conveyance of a security interest, as defined in subdivision (7) 165 of subsection (b) of section 22a-452f;
- 166 (E) Termination of a lease and conveyance, assignment or execution 167 of a lease for a period less than ninety-nine years including

168 conveyance, assignment or execution of a lease with options or similar

- terms that will extend the period of the leasehold to ninety-nine years,
- 170 or from the commencement of the leasehold, ninety-nine years,
- including conveyance, assignment or execution of a lease with options
- or similar terms that will extend the period of the leasehold to ninety-
- 173 nine years, or from the commencement of the leasehold;
- (F) Any change in ownership approved by the Probate Court;
- 175 (G) Devolution of title to a surviving joint tenant, or to a trustee,
- 176 executor or administrator under the terms of a testamentary trust or
- 177 will, or by intestate succession;
- 178 (H) Corporate reorganization not substantially affecting the
- 179 ownership of the establishment;
- (I) The issuance of stock or other securities of an entity which owns
- 181 or operates an establishment;
- 182 (J) The transfer of stock, securities or other ownership interests
- representing less than forty per cent of the ownership of the entity that
- 184 owns or operates the establishment;
- 185 (K) Any conveyance of an interest in an establishment where the
- transferor is the sibling, spouse, child, parent, grandparent, child of a
- sibling or sibling of a parent of the transferee;
- 188 (L) Conveyance of an interest in an establishment to a trustee of an
- inter vivos trust created by the transferor solely for the benefit of one
- or more siblings, spouses, children, parents, grandchildren, children of
- 191 a sibling or siblings of a parent of the transferor;
- 192 (M) Any conveyance of a portion of a parcel upon which portion no
- 193 establishment is or has been located and upon which there has not
- 194 occurred a discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration
- of hazardous waste, provided either the area of such portion is not
- 196 greater than fifty per cent of the area of such parcel or written notice of
- 197 such proposed conveyance and an environmental condition

assessment form for such parcel is provided to the commissioner sixty days prior to such conveyance;

- 200 (N) Conveyance of a service station, as defined in subdivision (5) of this section;
- 202 (O) Any conveyance of an establishment which, prior to July 1, 1997, 203 had been developed solely for residential use and such use has not 204 changed;
- (P) Any conveyance of an establishment to any entity created or operating under chapter 130 or 132, or to an urban rehabilitation agency, as defined in section 8-292, or to a municipality under section 32-224, or to the Connecticut Development Authority or any subsidiary of the authority;
- (Q) Any conveyance of a parcel in connection with the acquisition of properties to effectuate the development of the overall project, as defined in section 32-651;
- 213 (R) The conversion of a general or limited partnership to a limited liability company under section 34-199;
- (S) The transfer of general partnership property held in the names of all of its general partners to a general partnership which includes as general partners immediately after the transfer all of the same persons as were general partners immediately prior to the transfer;
- 219 (T) The transfer of general partnership property held in the names 220 of all of its general partners to a limited liability company which 221 includes as members immediately after the transfer all of the same 222 persons as were general partners immediately prior to the transfer;
- 223 (U) Acquisition of an establishment by any governmental or quasi-224 governmental condemning authority;
- (V) Conveyance of any real property or business operation that would qualify as an establishment solely as a result of (i) the

227 generation of more than one hundred kilograms of universal waste in 228 a calendar month, (ii) the storage, handling or transportation of 229 universal waste generated at a different location, or (iii) activities 230 undertaken at a universal waste transfer facility, provided any such 231 real property or business operation does not otherwise qualify as an 232 establishment; there has been no discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, 233 seepage or filtration of a universal waste or a constituent of universal 234 waste that is a hazardous substance at or from such real property or 235 business operation; and universal waste is not also recycled, treated, 236 except for treatment of a universal waste pursuant to 40 CFR 237 273.13(a)(2) or (c)(2) or 40 CFR 273.33 (a)(2) or (c)(2), or disposed of at 238 such real property or business operation; or

- 239 (W) Conveyance of a unit in a residential common interest 240 community in accordance with section 22a-134i.
- Sec. 3. Section 32-9dd of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):
- 243 remediation approved by as the Department 244 Environmental Protection of the brownfield property by the 245 municipality, [or] economic development agency [, the economic 246 development agency or the municipality or entity established under 247 chapter 130 or 132, nonprofit economic development corporation 248 formed to promote the common good, general welfare and economic 249 development of a municipality that is funded, either directly or 250 through in-kind services, in part by a municipality, or a nonstock 251 corporation or limited liability company controlled or established by a 252 municipality, municipal economic development agency or entity 253 created or operating under chapter 130 or 132, such entity may transfer 254 the property to any person provided such a person is not otherwise 255 liable under section 22a-432, 22a-433, 22a-451 or 22a-452, as amended 256 by this act. The person who acquires title [from the municipality or 257 economic development agency] pursuant to this section shall not be 258 liable under section 22a-432, 22a-433, 22a-451 or 22a-452, as amended 259 by this act, provided that such person does not cause or contribute to

260 the discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of such 261 hazardous substance, material or waste and such person is not a 262 member, officer, manager, director, shareholder, subsidiary, successor 263 of, related to, or affiliated with, directly or indirectly, the person who is 264 otherwise liable under section 22a-432, 22a-433, 22a-451 or 22a-452, as 265 amended by this act. In addition, the Commissioner of Environmental 266 Protection shall also provide such person with a covenant not to sue 267 pursuant to section 22a-133 and shall not require the prospective 268 purchaser or owner to pay a fee. The municipality, [or] economic 269 development agency or entity established under chapter 130 or 132, 270 nonprofit economic development corporation formed to promote the 271 common good, general welfare and economic development of a 272 municipality that is funded, either directly or through in-kind services, 273 in part by a municipality, or a nonstock corporation or limited liability 274 company controlled or established by a municipality, municipal 275 economic development agency or entity created or operating under 276 chapter 130 or 132 shall distribute the proceeds from any sale as 277 follows: (1) Twenty per cent shall be retained by the municipality, [or] 278 economic development agency, nonprofit economic development 279 corporation or nonstock corporation or limited liability company and 280 used for capital improvements for economic development, and (2) 281 eighty per cent shall be transferred to the Office of Brownfield 282 Remediation and Development and deposited in the account 283 established pursuant to section 32-9ff.

- Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 32-9ee of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1, 2009):
- 287 (a) [The] Any municipality, [or] economic development agency or 288 entity established under chapter 130 or 132, nonprofit economic 289 development corporation formed to promote the common good, 290 general welfare and economic development of a municipality that is 291 funded, either directly or through in-kind services, in part by a 292 municipality, or a nonstock corporation or limited liability company 293 controlled or established by a municipality, municipal economic

294 development agency or entity created or operating under chapter 130 295 or 132 that receives grants through the Office of Brownfield Remediation and [Development's] Development or the Department of 296 297 Economic and Community Development, including those 298 municipalities designated by the Commissioner of Economic and 299 Community Development as part of the pilot program established in 300 subsection (c) of section 32-9cc for the investigation and remediation of 301 a brownfield property shall be considered an innocent party and shall 302 not be liable under section 22a-432, 22a-433, 22a-451 or 22a-452, as 303 amended by this act, for conditions pre-existing or existing on the 304 brownfield property as of the date of acquisition or control as long as 305 the municipality, [or] economic development agency or entity 306 established under chapter 130 or 132, nonprofit economic development 307 corporation formed to promote the common good, general welfare and 308 economic development of a municipality that is funded, either directly 309 or through in-kind services, in part by a municipality, or a nonstock corporation or limited liability company controlled or established by a 310 municipality, municipal economic development agency or entity 311 312 created or operating under chapter 130 or 132 did not cause or contribute to the discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or 313 314 filtration of such hazardous substance, material, waste or pollution 315 that is subject to remediation under [this pilot program] section 22a-133k and funded by the Office of Brownfield Remediation and 316 317 Development or the Department of Economic and Community 318 Development; does not exacerbate the conditions; and complies with reporting of significant environmental hazard requirements in section 319 22a-6u. To the extent that any conditions are exacerbated, the 320 321 municipality, economic development agency or entity established under chapter 130 or 132, nonprofit economic development 322 corporation formed to promote the common good, general welfare and 323 324 economic development of a municipality that is funded, either directly 325 or through in-kind services, in part by a municipality, or nonstock 326 corporation or limited liability company controlled or established by a 327 municipality, municipal economic development agency or entity 328 created or operating under chapter 130 or 132 shall only be responsible

for responding to contamination exacerbated by its negligent or reckless activities.

- Sec. 5. Section 22a-452 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2009*):
 - (a) Any person, firm, corporation or municipality which contains or removes or otherwise mitigates the effects of oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or solid, liquid or gaseous products or hazardous wastes resulting from any discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of such substance or material or waste shall be entitled, subject to the conditions in this section, to reimbursement from any person, firm or corporation for the necessary and reasonable costs expended for such containment, removal, or mitigation, including any investigation and remediation, if such oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or solid, liquid or gaseous products or hazardous wastes pollution or contamination or other emergency [resulted from the negligence or other] was directly or indirectly caused by or contributed to or exacerbated by the actions or omissions of such person, firm or corporation. When such pollution or contamination or emergency results from the [joint negligence or other] actions or omissions of two or more persons, firms or corporations, each shall be liable [to the others] for a pro rata share of the costs of [containing, and removing or otherwise mitigating the effects] investigation and remediation of the same and for all damage caused thereby. No person, firm or corporation shall be liable for reimbursement of costs incurred unless such person, firm or corporation received notice and the opportunity to participate in the investigation and remediation pursuant to subsection (g) of this section. No such responsible person, firm or corporation shall be required to fund any remediation above the land use that existed when the person, firm or corporation owned or operated such site. If an imminent and substantial endangerment exists at the property or arises from pollution migrating beyond the property line, the provisions of this section limiting the potentially responsible party's liability shall not apply to an action for the costs associated with the investigation and remediation of such condition.

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For the purposes of this subsection, "reimbursement" means the reimbursement of funds already expended or the recovery of funds to be expended, pursuant to this section, and "pro rata share" means an equitable proportionate share based upon equitable and site-specific factors, including, but not limited to, the activity conducted on the property, the duration of such activity or ownership of the property, compliance with the laws, regulations and other standards that existed at the time of ownership or operation with respect to the ownership or operation of the property, type and amount of pollution caused, and prior efforts to prevent, contain, mitigate or remediate such pollution.

- (b) No person, firm, [or] corporation or municipality which renders assistance or advice in mitigating or attempting to mitigate the effects of an actual or threatened discharge of oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or solid, liquid or gaseous products or hazardous materials, hazardous wastes or hazardous substances, other than a discharge of oil as defined in section 22a-457b, to the surface waters of the state, or [which] who assists in preventing, cleaning-up or disposing of any such discharge shall be held liable, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for civil damages as a result of any act or omission by him in rendering such assistance or advice, except acts or omissions amounting to gross negligence or wilful or wanton misconduct, unless he is compensated for such assistance or advice for more than actual expenses. For the purpose of this subsection, "discharge" means spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration and "hazardous materials" means any material or substance designated as such by any state or federal law or regulation.
- (c) The immunity provided in <u>subsection (b) of</u> this section shall not apply to (1) any person, firm, [or] corporation <u>or municipality</u> responsible for such discharge, or under a duty to mitigate the effects of such discharge, (2) any agency or instrumentality of such person, firm or corporation, or (3) negligence in the operation of a motor vehicle.
- (d) An action for reimbursement or recovery of the reasonable costs

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expected for containment, removal, remediation or mitigation, including the reasonable costs of investigation and remediation, shall be commenced on or before the later of (1) six years after written notice was provided to the known responsible person, firm or corporation pursuant to subsection (g) of this section, or (2) three years after the completion of remediation activities, exclusive of any post-remedial or other long-term groundwater monitoring.

- (e) In any action brought pursuant to this section, the Superior Court may issue an order granting the reimbursement or recovery of reasonable costs to be incurred in the future consistent with the pro rata share of the costs of the potential responsible party.
- (f) On and after July 1, 2009, the provisions of this section shall apply to any action for the reimbursement or recovery of the reasonable costs for containment, removal, remediation or mitigation, including, but not limited to, the reasonable costs of investigation and remediation.
 - (g) Before any person, firm or corporation files an action under this section in the Superior Court, such person, firm or corporation shall provide written notice of intent to conduct any remediation to all known potential responsible parties no later than one hundred twenty days before the commencement of such activity. Such notice shall identify the property, the potential responsible party's relationship to such site, the proposed investigation or remediation activity and its estimated cost and the date that such activity is to commence. No such notice shall be required before filing a lawsuit if an imminent and substantial endangerment exists necessitating immediate action, provided notice is made within a reasonable time after immediate action is taken. Notice provided pursuant to this subsection shall be sent certified mail, return receipt requested to any potentially responsible party at their last known address on file at the Secretary of the State's office or their agent for service of process, if any. If a private corporation is no longer on file with the Secretary of the State, notice shall be sent to the last-known address of the president or, if a

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partnership, to the last-known address of any of the known partners,

- 430 or, if an individual, to the last-known residential address of the
- individual. The performing party shall provide a copy of the notice to
- 432 the Office of the Attorney General and the Commissioner of
- 433 <u>Environmental Protection. When other potentially responsible parties</u>
- become known to the performing party after the notice under this
- 435 section is provided, the performing party shall provide notice
- 436 pursuant to this subsection not later than forty-five days after the
- 437 <u>discovery of the other potentially responsible parties.</u>
- 438 (h) Any potentially responsible party shall inform such performing
- 439 party, not later than forty-five days after receipt of the notice required
- 440 pursuant to subsection (g) of this section and before commencement of
- 441 any activity on such site, of their intent to participate in the
- investigation and remediation. Such notice shall include a statement of
- 443 the extent to which the potential responsible party is willing to
- 444 <u>reimburse necessary and reasonable costs or undertake investigation</u>
- 445 or remediation activities, and any objections to necessity or
- reasonableness of the proposed activity.
- (i) A potentially responsible party that has exercised its right to
- 448 participate and participates in the investigation and remediation of an
- eligible site shall be responsible solely for its pro rata share of any
- 450 <u>necessary and reasonable costs of investigation and remediation. A</u>
- 451 potentially responsible party that fails to offer and share in the costs
- 452 <u>reasonably proportionate to its pro rata share, or who fails to</u>
- participate or respond to the notice provided in subsection (c) of this
- 454 <u>section shall (1) waive any right to challenge the necessity and</u> 455 reasonableness of investigation and remediation costs in any claim or
- 455 <u>reasonableness of investigation and remediation costs in any claim of</u>
- 456 <u>action for reimbursement of such investigation and remediation costs;</u> 457 (2) pay damages to the performing party, including costs associated
- 458 with any lost business opportunities; and (3) pay the performing
- 459 party's attorneys fees and other costs of litigation, in the event the
- 460 performing party prevails in its claim or action for reimbursement.
- 461 (j) A performing party that has failed to provide notice and

opportunity to participate to any known potential responsible party
shall be prohibited from seeking reimbursement of investigation and
remediation costs from such potential responsible party.

- (k) Nothing in this section shall relieve any potential responsible party from any liability to any third party for property damage or personal injury based upon common law.
- (l) Nothing in this section shall deprive any potential responsible party from any possible defenses to any action, including, but not limited to, contribution, available by law.
 - (m) No eligible party shall be liable for a claim under this section for any costs or damages arising from any pollution or source of pollution on or emanating from the property that occurred or existed prior to such eligible party taking title to such property provided the eligible party did not establish or create a condition or facility at or on such property that reasonably can be expected to create a source of pollution and the eligible party is not affiliated with any person responsible for such pollution or source of pollution through any direct or indirect familial relationship or any contractual, corporate or financial relationship other than that by which such eligible party's interest in the property was conveyed or financed.
- 482 (n) For purposes of this section: (1) "Potentially responsible party" 483 means any person, firm, corporation or municipality that is liable 484 under this section for an act or omission that directly or indirectly caused or contributed to or exacerbated the release, discharge, spillage, 485 486 uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of oil or petroleum or chemical liquids or solid, liquid or gaseous products or hazardous wastes; (2) 487 488 "eligible party" means a person, firm, corporation or municipality that 489 acquired the property after the pollution or source of pollution existed 490 or occurred and such party is not otherwise responsible pursuant to 491 section 22a-428, 22a-432, 22a-433 or 22a-451 or pursuant to transfer of ownership filing pursuant to section 22a-134, as amended by this act, 492 493 or 22a-134e and is not affiliated with any person responsible for such

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494 pollution or source of pollution through any direct or indirect familial 495 relationship or any contractual, corporate or financial relationship other than that by which such owner's interest in the property was 496 497 conveyed or financed; (3) "performing party" means the person, firm or corporation that performs an investigation and remediation or 498 499 contains or removes or otherwise mitigates the effects of oil or 500 petroleum or chemical liquids or solid, liquid or gaseous products or hazardous wastes; (4) "investigation and remediation" means 501 502 investigation, containment, mitigation, removal, assessment, 503 remediation and subsequent monitoring; (5) "remediation" means the 504 work performed on a site that is undertaken pursuant to a remedial 505 action plan; and (6) "municipality" shall have the same meaning as in section 22a-423, and includes any municipal economic development 506 507 agency or entity created or operating under chapter 130 or 132 and any 508 nonprofit economic development corporation formed to promote the 509 common good, general welfare and economic development of a 510 municipality that is funded, either directly or through in-kind services, in part by a municipality, or a nonstock corporation or limited liability 511 512 company established and controlled by a municipality, municipal 513 economic development agency or entity created or operating under 514 chapter 130 or 132.

- 515 Sec. 6. Section 22a-134b of the general statutes is repealed and the 516 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 517 (a) Failure of the transferor to comply with any of the provisions of sections 22a-134 to 22a-134e, inclusive, as amended by this act, entitles 518 519 the transferee to recover damages from the transferor, and renders the transferor of the establishment strictly liable, without regard to fault, 520 521 for all remediation costs and for all direct and indirect damages.
- 522 (b) An action to recover damages pursuant to subsection (a) of this 523 section shall be commenced not later than six years after the later of (1) the due date for the filing of the appropriate transfer form pursuant to 524 section 22a-134a, as amended by this act, or (2) the actual filing date of 525 the appropriate transfer form.

527 (c) This section shall apply to any action brought for the 528 reimbursement or recovery of costs associated with investigation and 529 remediation, as defined in subsection (n) of section 22a-452, as 530 amended by this act, and all direct and indirect damages, except any 531 action that becomes final and is no longer subject to appeal on or 532 before October 1, 2009.

Sec. 7. Section 22a-133dd of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

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- (a) Any municipality or any licensed environmental professional employed or retained by a municipality may enter, without liability [to any person other than the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, upon any property within such municipality for the purpose of performing an environmental site assessment or investigation on behalf of the municipality if: (1) The owner of such property cannot be located; (2) such property is encumbered by a lien for taxes due such municipality; (3) upon a filing of a notice of eminent domain; (4) the municipality's legislative body finds that such investigation is in the public interest to determine if the property is underutilized or should be included in any undertaking of development, redevelopment or remediation pursuant to this chapter or chapter 130, 132 or 581; or (5) any official of the municipality reasonably finds such investigation necessary to determine if such property presents a risk to the safety, health or welfare of the public or a risk to the environment. The municipality shall give at least forty-five days' notice of such entry before the first such entry by certified mail to the property owner's last known address of record.
- (b) A municipality accessing or entering a property to perform an investigation pursuant to this section shall not [incur any liability pursuant to section 22a-432 for any preexisting contamination or pollution on such property, provided, however, a municipality may be liable for any pollution or contamination resulting from a negligent or reckless investigation] be liable for preexisting conditions pursuant to section 22a-432, 22a-433, 22a-451 or 22a-452, as amended by this act, or

to the property owner or any third party, provided the municipality (1) 560 561 did not cause or contribute to the discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of such hazardous substance, material, waste 562 563 or pollution; (2) does not negligently or recklessly exacerbate the conditions; and (3) complies with reporting of significant 564 565 environmental hazard requirements pursuant to section 22a-6u. To the extent that any conditions are negligently or recklessly exacerbated, 566 567 the municipality shall only be responsible for responding to 568 contamination exacerbated by its activities.

- (c) The owner of the property may object to such access and entry by the municipality by filing an action in the Superior Court not later than thirty days after receipt of the notice provided pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, provided any objection be limited to the [owner affirmatively representing that it is diligently investigating the site in a timely manner and that any municipal taxes owed will be paid in full] issue of whether access is necessary and only upon proof by the owner that the owner has (1) completed or is in the process of completing in a timely manner a comprehensive environmental site assessment or investigation report; (2) provided the party seeking access with a copy of the assessment or report or will do so not later than thirty days after the delivery of such assessment or report to the owner; and (3) paid any delinquent property taxes assessed against the property for which access is being sought.
- 583 (d) For purposes of this section, "municipality" includes any municipality, municipal economic development agency or entity 584 created or operating under chapter 130 or 132, nonprofit economic 585 development corporation formed to promote the common good, 586 general welfare and economic development of a municipality that is 587 588 funded, either directly or through in-kind services, in part by a 589 municipality, or nonstock corporation or limited liability company established and controlled by a municipality, municipal economic 590 591 development agency or entity created or operating under chapter 130 or 132. 592

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Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) At sites undergoing remedial action pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 22a-133e of the general statutes or subsection (c) of section 22a-133e of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Environmental Protection may approve an alternative institutional control to protect human health and the environment, other than an environmental land use restriction, as defined in section 22a-133n of the general statutes, and such remedial action shall be deemed consistent with regulations adopted pursuant to section 22a-133k of the general statutes.

Sec. 9. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2009) (a) There is established an abandoned brownfield cleanup program. The Commissioner of and Community Development shall determine, consultation with the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, properties and persons eligible for said program. For a person and a property to be eligible, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall determine if (1) the property is a brownfield, as defined in section 32-9kk of the general statutes and such property has been unused or significantly underused since October 1, 1999; (2) such person intends to acquire title to such property for the purpose of redeveloping such property; (3) the redevelopment of such property has a regional or municipal economic development benefit; (4) such person did not establish or create a facility or condition at or on such property that can reasonably be expected to create a source of pollution to the waters of the state for the purposes of section 22a-432 of the general statutes and is not affiliated with any person responsible for such pollution or source of pollution through any direct or indirect familial relationship or any contractual, corporate or financial relationship other than a relationship by which such owner's interest in such property is to be conveyed or financed; (5) such person is not otherwise required by law, an order or consent order issued by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection or a stipulated judgment to remediate pollution on or emanating from such property; (6) the person responsible for pollution on or emanating from the property is indeterminable, is no longer in existence or is

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otherwise unable to perform necessary remediation of such property; and (7) the property and the person meet any other criteria said commissioner deems necessary.

- (b) Upon designation by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development of an eligible person who holds title to such property, such eligible person shall (1) enter and remain in the voluntary remediation program established in section 22a-133x of the general statutes, as amended by this act, provided such person will not be a certifying party for the property pursuant to section 22a-134 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, when acquiring such property, (2) investigate pollution on such property in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines and remediate pollution on such property in accordance with regulations established for remediation adopted by the Commissioner of Environmental Protection and in accordance with applicable schedules; and (3) eliminate further emanation or migration of any pollution from such property. An eligible person who holds title to an eligible property designated to be in the abandoned brownfields cleanup program shall not be responsible for investigating or remediating any pollution or source of pollution that has emanated from such property prior to such person taking title to such property.
- (c) Any applicant seeking a designation of eligibility for a person or a property under the abandoned brownfields cleanup program shall apply to the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development at such times and on such forms as the commissioner may prescribe.
- (d) Not later than sixty days after receipt of the application, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall determine if the application is complete and shall notify the applicant of such determination.
- (e) Not later than ninety days after determining that the application is complete, the Commissioner of Economic and Community

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Development shall determine whether to include the property and applicant in the abandoned brownfields cleanup program.

- (f) Designation of a property in the abandoned brownfields cleanup program by the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development shall not limit the applicant's or any other person's ability to seek funding for such property under any other brownfield grant or loan program administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development, the Connecticut Development Authority or the Department of Environmental Protection.
- Sec. 10. Section 22a-134 of the general statutes is amended by adding subdivision (28) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2009*):
 - (NEW) (28) "Interim verification" means a written opinion by a licensed environmental professional, on a form prescribed by the commissioner, that (A) the investigation has been performed in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines, (B) the remediation has been completed in accordance with the remediation standards, except that, for remediation standards for groundwater, the selected remedy is in operation but has not achieved the remediation standards for groundwater, (C) identifies the long-term remedy being implemented to achieve groundwater standards, the estimated duration of such remedy, and the ongoing operation and maintenance requirements for continued operation of such remedy, and (D) there are no current exposure pathways to the groundwater area that have not yet met the remediation standards.
- Sec. 11. Subdivision (1) of subsection (g) of section 22a-134a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):
 - (g) (1) (A) Except as provided in subsection (h) of this section, the certifying party to a Form III [or Form IV] shall, not later than seventy-five days after the receipt of the notice that such form is complete or such later date as may be approved in writing by the commissioner, submit a schedule for the investigation of the parcel and remediation

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of the establishment. Such schedule shall, unless a later date is specified in writing by the commissioner, provide that the investigation shall be completed within two years of the date of receipt of such notice, [and that] remediation shall be initiated not later than three years after the date of receipt of such notice and remediation shall be completed sufficient to support either a verification or interim verification not later than eight years after the date of such notice. The schedule shall also include a schedule for providing public notice of the remediation prior to the initiation of such remediation in accordance with subsection (i) of this section. Not later than two years after the date of the receipt of the notice that the Form III [or Form IV] is complete, unless the commissioner has specified a later day, in writing, the certifying party shall submit to the commissioner documentation, approved in writing by a licensed environmental professional and in a form prescribed by the commissioner, that the investigation has been completed in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines. Not later than three years after the date of the receipt of the notice that the Form III [or Form IV] is complete, unless the commissioner has specified a later day in writing, the certifying party shall notify the commissioner in a form prescribed by the commissioner that the remediation has been initiated, and shall submit to the commissioner a remedial action plan approved in writing by a licensed environmental professional in a form prescribed by the commissioner. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the commissioner may determine at any time that the commissioner's review and written approval is necessary and in such case shall notify the certifying party that the commissioner's review and written approval is necessary. Such certifying party shall investigate the parcel and remediate the establishment in accordance with the [proposed] schedule or the schedule specified by the commissioner. [When]

(B) For a certifying party that submitted a Form III or Form IV before October 1, 2009, when remediation of the entire establishment is complete, the certifying party shall achieve the remediation standards

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725 for the establishment sufficient to support a final verification and shall 726 submit to the commissioner a final verification by a licensed environmental professional. For a certifying party that submits a Form 727 728 III or Form IV after October 1, 2009, not later than eight years after the 729 date of receipt of the notice that the Form III or Form IV is complete, 730 unless the commissioner has specified a later date in writing, the 731 certifying party shall achieve the remediation standards for the 732 establishment sufficient to support a final or interim verification and 733 shall submit to the commissioner such final or interim verification by a 734 licensed environmental professional. Any such final verification may 735 include and rely upon a verification for a portion of the establishment 736 submitted pursuant to subdivision (2) of this subsection. Verifications 737 shall be submitted on a form prescribed by the commissioner.

- (C) A certifying party who submits an interim verification shall, until the remediation standards for groundwater are achieved, operate and maintain the long-term remedy for groundwater in accordance with the remedial action plan, the interim verification and any approvals by the commissioner, prevent exposure to the groundwater plume and submit annual status reports to the commissioner.
- 744 (D) The certifying party to a Form IV shall submit with the Form IV 745 a schedule for the groundwater monitoring and recording of an 746 environmental land use restriction, as applicable.
- Sec. 12. Section 22a-133x of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2009*):
 - (a) For the purposes of this section, "applicant" means the person who submits the environmental condition assessment form to the commissioner pursuant to this section. Except as provided in section 22a-133y, [a political subdivision of the state, an owner of an establishment, as defined in section 22a-134, an owner of property identified on the inventory of hazardous waste disposal sites maintained pursuant to section 22a-133c on October 1, 1995, or an owner of contaminated property located in an area for which the

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groundwater classification is GA or GAA,] <u>any person</u> may, at any time, submit to the commissioner an environmental condition assessment form for [such] real property [owned by such political subdivision or such owner] and an initial review fee in accordance with subsection (e) of this section. [The owner or political subdivision] <u>Such applicant</u> shall use a licensed environmental professional to verify the investigation and remediation, unless not later than thirty days after the commissioner's receipt of such form, the commissioner notifies [the owner or political subdivision] <u>such applicant</u>, in writing, that review and written approval of any remedial action at such [establishment or] property by the commissioner will be required. The commissioner shall not process any such form submitted pursuant to this section unless such form is accompanied by the required initial review fee.

(b) The [owner or political subdivision] applicant shall, on or before ninety days after the submission of an environmental condition assessment form, submit a statement of proposed actions for investigating and remediating the parcel or a release area, as defined in the regulations adopted by the commissioner pursuant to section 22a-133k, and a schedule for implementing such actions. The commissioner may require the [owner or political subdivision] applicant to submit to the commissioner copies of technical plans and reports related to investigation and remediation of the parcel or release area. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the commissioner may determine that the commissioner's review and written approval of such technical plans and reports is necessary at any time, and in such case the commissioner shall notify the Jowner or political subdivision] applicant of the need for the commissioner's review and written approval. The commissioner shall require that the certifying party submit to the commissioner all technical plans and reports related to the investigation and remediation of the parcel or release area if the commissioner receives a written request from any person for such information. The [owner or political subdivision] applicant shall advise the commissioner of any modifications to the proposed

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schedule. Upon receipt of a verification by a licensed environmental professional that the parcel or release area has been investigated in accordance with prevailing standards and guidelines and remediated in accordance with the remediation standards, the [owner or political subdivision] <u>applicant</u> shall submit such verification to the commissioner on a form prescribed by the commissioner.

(c) If the commissioner notifies the [owner or political subdivision] applicant that the commissioner will formally review and approve in writing the investigation and remediation of the parcel, the [owner or political subdivision applicant shall, on or before thirty days of the receipt of such notice, or such later date as may be approved in writing by the commissioner, submit for the commissioner's review and written approval, a proposed schedule for: (1) Investigating and remediating the parcel or release area; and (2) submitting to the commissioner technical plans, technical reports and progress reports such investigation and remediation. related to Upon commissioner's approval of such schedule, the [owner or political subdivision] applicant shall, in accordance with the approved schedule, submit technical plans, technical reports and progress reports to the commissioner for the commissioner's review and written approval. The [owner or political subdivision] applicant shall perform all actions identified in the approved technical plans, technical reports and progress reports in accordance with the approved schedule. The commissioner may approve, in writing, any modification proposed in writing by the [owner or political subdivision] applicant to such schedule or investigation and remediation and may notify the [owner] applicant, in writing, if the commissioner determines that it is appropriate to discontinue formal review and approval of the investigation or remediation.

(d) If, in accordance with the provisions of this section, the commissioner has approved in writing or, as applicable, a licensed environmental professional has verified, that the parcel or release area has been remediated in accordance with the remediation standards, such approval or verification may be used as the basis for submitting a

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Form II pursuant to sections 22a-134 to 22a-134e, inclusive, <u>as</u> amended by this act, provided there has been no additional discharge, spillage, uncontrolled loss, seepage or filtration of hazardous waste at or on the parcel subsequent to the date of the commissioner's approval or verification by a licensed environmental professional.

- (e) The fee for submitting an environmental condition assessment form to the commissioner pursuant to this section shall be three thousand dollars and shall be paid at the time the environmental condition assessment form is submitted. Any fee paid pursuant to this section shall be deducted from any fee required by subsection (m) or (n) of section 22a-134e for the transfer of any parcel for which an environmental condition assessment form has been submitted within three years of such transfer.
- (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect or impair the voluntary site remediation process provided for in section 22a-133y.
- (g) Prior to commencement of remedial action taken under this section, the [owner or political subdivision] applicant shall (1) publish notice of the remediation, in accordance with the schedule submitted pursuant to this section, in a newspaper having a substantial circulation in the area affected by the establishment, (2) notify the director of health of the municipality where the parcel is located of the remediation, and (3) either (A) erect and maintain for at least thirty days in a legible condition a sign not less than six feet by four feet on the parcel, which sign shall be clearly visible from the public highway, and shall include the words "ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP IN PROGRESS AT THIS SITE. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:" and include a telephone number for an office from which any interested person may obtain additional information about the remediation, or (B) mail notice of the remediation to each owner of record of property which abuts the parcel, at the last-known address of such owner on the last-completed grand list of the municipality where the parcel is located.

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Sec. 13. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) Notwithstanding any other provisions of the general statutes, whenever a state agency or quasipublic agency, as defined in section 1-120 of the general statutes, solicits bids, makes a request for proposals or negotiates a contract for the environmental remediation of a brownfield property, such bid, proposal or contract shall include a provision whereby the employment and utilization of green remediation technologies shall be accorded due consideration."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	from passage	25-68d
Sec. 2	from passage	22a-134(1)
Sec. 3	July 1, 2009	32-9dd
Sec. 4	July 1, 2009	32-9ee(a)
Sec. 5	July 1, 2009	22a-452
Sec. 6	from passage	22a-134b
Sec. 7	from passage	22a-133dd
Sec. 8	from passage	New section
Sec. 9	October 1, 2009	New section
Sec. 10	October 1, 2009	22a-134
Sec. 11	October 1, 2009	22a-134a(g)(1)
Sec. 12	October 1, 2009	22a-133x
Sec. 13	October 1, 2009	New section